

To the Members of the California State Senate

I am returning Senate Bill 1698 without my signature.

I believe that sufficient safeguards are already in place to prevent contractors from bidding on public works projects if they fail to comply with current Labor Code provisions. This bill would create barriers to small business by adding additional requirements to become a qualified bidder on public works projects, while providing little additional value to the public works process. By creating this barrier, competition on public works projects could be reduced, that may result in increased bid and project costs.

For these reasons, I am unable to sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger